County still seeking agreement on wind farm terms

(KMZA)--Nemaha County is still seeking an agreement with NextEra Energy Resources on the terms for the development of the proposed Soldier Creek Wind Farm.

A large number of county residents filled the Nemaha County Commission room this week in hopes that this would be the week that a term sheet was released.

But following an executive session with attorney Jim Neeld, who has been retained by the county to assist in the negotiations, County Commission Chairman Gary Scoby told those attendance that they still remain in negotiations.

Scoby said two issues continue to be unresolved. Those include the setback distance from property lines and residences, and the money to be paid by NextEra as either annual taxes or a one-time payment in lieu of taxes.

Scoby said after an agreement is reached, the term sheet will be released to the public and at least one public hearing will be held.

Following the hearings, the Commission will have three choices. They can approve the terms that have been negotiated, decline to accept the terms or issue a moratorium on wind development while they wait to see the outcome of ongoing state legislation regulating the industry.

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